

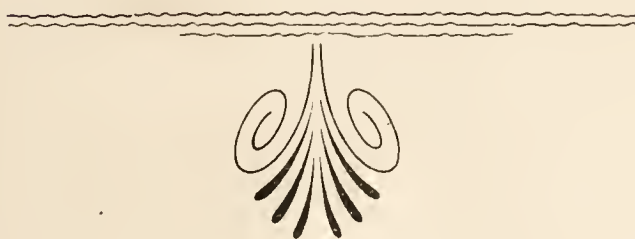
RAMSBOTTOM
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH AND
SANITARY
INSPECTOR. . . .



→ 1913. ←

LIST OF ACTS AND SECTIONS THEREOF ADOPTED
BY THE RAMSBOTTOM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

I. Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890.

II. Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907.

Part II.

Sections 34, 35, 36, 38, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 49,
50 and 51, comprised in :—

Part III.

Part IV.

Part V

Part VI.

Sections 79, 80, 81 and 86 of


Part VII.

Part VIII.

Part IX. and

Sections 92, 93 and 95 of

Part X



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THE RAMSBOTTOM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Councillors J. WILKINSON, Chairman
G. BARCROFT
J. CUNLIFFE
J. HARRISON
J. KAY
J. R. NUTTALL
T. PINKERTON
S. PLUNKETT
F. PRESTON (deceased)
E. L. ROTHWELL
G. TAYLOR
J. TAYLOR

THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Councillors E. L. ROTHWELL, Chairman
J. CUNLIFFE
J. HARRISON
J. KAY
F. PRESTON (deceased)
J. TAYLOR

TO THE
RAMSBOTTOM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

THE ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN :

I have much pleasure in presenting my annual report for the year ending December 31, 1913, comprising in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Board, together with other items, a record of the vital statistics for the year, a summary of the action taken during the year for preventing the spread of disease, and an account of the sanitary condition of the district at the end of the year.

The town of Ramsbottom, 12 miles north of Manchester, lies in the Irwell Valley, 400 feet above sea level. On either side the hills consisting chiefly of millstone grit and extensively quarried for building, road mending and paving material, rise quickly on either side to upwards of 1200 feet, and by reason of their steep slopes facilitate the discharge into the river of surplus water from a rainfall considerably above the average. The subsoil is porous and does not, even in the valley meadows, retain upon its surface for any length of time collections of water after rain storms.

Farm houses are dotted over the hillsides, but excepting hay the land is not suited for crops and the principal agricultural pursuit is cowkeeping. There are about 80 cowkeepers within the Urban District and the town provides a ready market for milk.

Ramsbottom is an industrial town and the chief industries are cotton and woollen manufacturing, paper making, calico printing, bleaching and dyeing, engineering, and, as already mentioned, quarrying.

The sum expended in poor-law relief for 1913 was £336 7s. 3d. For 1912 it was £420 17s 4d.

The Urban District from North to South extends about four miles and includes besides Ramsbottom, the villages of Edenfield, Shuttleworth, Stubbins with Chatterton lane and Strongstry, Holcombe, Holcombe Brook, and Summerseat. It is divided into four wards—Central, North, East, and West, and at the census the population was 15,146. At the census 3701 houses were returned as inhabited, with an average per house of 4.1 persons, while no less than 240 houses were returned as tenantless. 231 more houses than at the census are now in occupation and I am advised by competent authorities that Ramsbottom has a population of 16,000 at the present moment. There is undoubtedly a considerable increase, but I am inclined to a more modest estimate and for statistical purposes I have taken 15,500 as more nearly representing the population at the middle of the year. This is an increase of 200 upon the estimate for 1912.

The increase is principally in North, East, and West wards where most of the new houses have been erected. As carefully as I can, I have apportioned the increase to the wards as follows :

WARD	Census Population	Increase	Pop. for middle of 1913
CENTRAL	4424	66	4490
WEST	3803	90	3893
NORTH	2674	108	2782
EAST	4245	90	4335
	15,146	354	15,500

DENSITY OF POPULATION.

	Central	East	North	West
Area in Acres (approx)	290	1112	2657	2364
No. of Persons to the Acre	15.48	38	1.05	1.65

Calculated upon a population of 15,500 the Birth Rate for the year is 17.42 ; 270 children being born : 128 males and 142 females ; 4 — 2 males and 2 females, were illegitimate.

WARD DISTRIBUTION.

Central	Males. 38	Females. 44	Total. 82
East	29	41	70
North	21	18	39
West	40	39	79

Approximate birth rate for each ward :—

Central 18.26	East 16.14	North 14.01	West 20.29
---------------	------------	-------------	------------

For the previous year the general birth-rate was 17.38. No. of births 263.

BIRTHS WITHIN THE URBAN DISTRICT OF RAMSBOTTOM,
— FOR 1913 —

Month.	Central Ward		North Ward.		East Ward.		West Ward.		Total	
	Males	F'm'les	Males	F'm'les	Males	F'm'les	Males	F'm'les	Males	Females
January	3	5	...	1	6	2	2	3	11	11
February	1	5	4	2	5	3	3	5	13	15
March ...	4	3	...	3	1	3	4	3	9	12
April ...	3	3	...	1	2	3	1	3	6	10
May ...	6	6	4	1	3	5	4	5	17	17
June ...	3	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	7	8
July ...	2	2	1	.	...	3	4	2	7	7
August ..	2	4	4	2	1	8	6	4	13	18
September	3	4	1	1	3	4	4	2	11	11
October	6	3	4	2	2	4	7	5	19	14
November	3	4	1	1	1	...	1	3	6	8
December	2	3	1	2	3	4	3	2	9	11
Totals ..	38	44	21	18	29	41	40	39	128	142
									270	

The Death-Rate for the year is 14.32 ; 222 deaths being recorded, males 107, females 115 For the previous year the respective figures were, Death-Rate 14.11, No of deaths 216. They occurred in the various Wards as follows :—

	Males	Females	Total
Central Ward	25	39	64
North „	20	20	40
East „	20	23	43
West „	23	24	47
Outside	19	9	28
	107	115	222

The outside or transferable deaths occurred in various institutions as follows :—Manchester Royal Infirmary 4 ; Salford Royal Hospital 1 ; Florence Nightingale Hospital 6 ; Southport Infirmary 1 ; Wellington, Salop, 1 ; and Rawtenstall 1 ; Bury Union 14.

Approximate death rates for each Ward,
including transferable deaths

Central 16.25	North 15.81	East 12.68	West 12.84
---------------	-------------	------------	------------

Mortality Rates of the 222 Deaths.

32	occurred in children under 1 year	...	=	14.41	per cent.
5	„ between the ages of 1 and 2 years		=	2.25	„
3	„ „ „ 2 5		=	1.35	„
6	„ „ „ 5 15		=	2.70	„
13	„ „ „ 15 25		=	5.85	„
29	„ „ „ 25 45		=	13.06	„
55	„ „ „ 45 65		=	24.78	„
79	„ in persons over the age of 65		=	35.6	„
				<u>100.00</u>	„

The deaths from Infectious Diseases (including Influenza) amount to 28 and are 12.6 per cent of the total deaths. For the previous year the deaths amounted to 25 or 11.5 per cent of the total. The increase is more than accounted for by the deaths from Diarrhoea which were 15, or 7 more than in 1912. There is a decrease of 4 deaths from the other infectious diseases, the respective figures being for 1913 13 deaths, for 1912 17 deaths. Deaths from Infectious Diseases for the last 10 years, (Influenza included in the last 2 years) :-

Year	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
Deaths	19	14	28	12	17	17	12	22	25	28

RESPIRATORY DISEASES (excluding Phthisis).

35 deaths were due to Respiratory Diseases: Pneumonia 28, Bronchitis 7, and is equal to a death rate of 2.25 or 15.7 per cent of the total deaths. The number is greater by 6 than for the previous year when there died from Pneumonia 21, Bronchitis 7, Other Chest Diseases 1. Age periods of the deaths :—

	under 1	1 to 2	2 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	over 65
Deaths	6	3	1	..	...	4	6	8

From this table it will be observed that these diseases are most fatal at the extremes of age :

Sex Distribution	...	...	Males.	Females.
Pneumonia	...	...	21	7
Bronchitis	...	...	3	4

Phthisis caused 16 deaths—males 6, females 10. This is 6 more than the previous year and makes a total of 51 deaths from Respiratory Diseases. The total for 1912 was 39 deaths. From other Tuberculous Diseases there were 3 deaths—Males 1, females 2, which is the same as for the previous year.

Heart Diseases caused 26 deaths—males 6, females 20, 1 less than in the previous year and equal to a death rate of 1.67.

Malignant Disease caused 20 deaths—males 11, females 9, 2 more than in the previous year, and equal to a death rate of 1.29.

Diseases of the Kidneys caused 13 deaths—males 6, females 7, 3 more than in the previous year, and equal to a death rate of .83.

18 deaths were returned as due to senility, being 4 less than in the previous year.

9 deaths were due to violence and 1 to suicide. This is an increase of 8 upon the previous year, when 1 violent death and 1 suicide were recorded. 9 inquests were held and 3 deaths were returned uncertified.

From all other defined Diseases—including 5 from premature birth, 5 from meningitis, 2 from cirrhosis of the liver, and 1 from Rheumatic Fever,—53 deaths were recorded.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Births for the year	...	...	...	...	...	270
Deaths	..	...	...	...	...	32
Infant Mortality Rate	...	...	...	118	5 per 1000 born	
Infant Mortality for 1912	...	...	101.1			„
Mean Infant Mortality Rate for the last 10 years	112.10					„

The Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales in 1912 was 95 per 1000 born, and is the lowest on record.

32 Infants—males 19, Females 13, died in Ramsbottom Urban District during 1913—an increase of 5 upon the number for the previous year. The principal causes of deaths were: Diarrhoea and Enteritis 10; Pneumonia and Bronchitis 7; Measles 1; Whooping Cough 1; Premature Birth 5. Table IV gives the ages in weeks and months, and the causes of death.

Intestinal diseases are again responsible for the greater number of deaths. This may be accounted for by the hot and dry summer climatic conditions, usually associated with the prevalence of Gastro-intestinal diseases. Yet this is a too heavy toll of deaths from diseases which are preventable. Insanitary surroundings, dirty houses, unsuitable food, carelessness in the preparation even of suitable food, unclean feeding bottles for hand-fed children, are all more or less responsible for diarrhoea in infants and might easily be eliminated altogether with a consequent reduction of this death-rate.

Respiratory diseases which are specially deadly in infants were responsible for 7 deaths, 6 more than for the previous year.

When in August, the question arose about adopting the notification of Births Act, 1907, I counselled its non-adoption and gave as my principal reason for doing so:—that unless at the same time you appointed a health visitor—a matter of considerable expense—the mere adoption of the Act would be valueless. I have reconsidered my advice given on that occasion and have come to the following conclusion i.e. :- that as the duties of your Public Health Officers are from year to year becoming more numerous and complex some assistance in the near future will be necessary. If a Health

Visitor who would give useful and necessary instruction to young mothers and others in feeding and general prevention of disease amongst young children, and as an Assistant Sanitary Inspector, perform such other duties as from time to time might be considered advisable, were appointed, I am of opinion that the advantage to the Public Health would be worth the additional expense. The appointment of a Health Visitor, not necessarily, but, very probably, would include the adoption of the Notification of Births Act, and the testimony of authorities who have done both is so much in favour of the procedure that I doubt not ere long it will be insisted upon by the Local Government Board.

The following table gives the number of births and deaths for the last 10 years. There is a considerable reduction in the number of births for the second quinquennium as compared with the first, although the Infant Mortality Rate remains pretty constant throughout the 10 years.

	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
Births ...	321	328	285	325	322	287	268	271	266	270
Deaths ...	36	35	36	32	39	29	25	39	27	32
Infant Mortality Rate	112.5					111.6				

Deaths under 5 years of age were 40, being 2 more than for the previous year.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1913 and previous Years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	BIRTHS			Total Deaths Registered in the District		Transferable Deaths.		Net Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Un- corrected Number	Nett.		Number	Rate	of Non- residents registered in the District.	of Resi- dents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages.	
			Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1000 Nett Births	Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1908	15200	322	0	21.1	183	12.0	0	23	39	121.11	206	13.55
1909	15200	287	0	19.1	214	14.0	0	18	29	101.04	232	15.26
1910	15200	268	0	17.6	202	13.3	0	28	25	93.28	230	15.13
1911	15200	269	0	17.8	183	12.0	0	25	39	144.98	208	13.68
1912	15300	263	0	17.38	183	11.96	0	33	27	102.66	216	14.11
1913	15500	270	0	17.42	194	12.51	0	28	32	118.51	222	14.32

Area 6423 Acres

Total population at all ages

15146

No of Inhabited Houses

3701

Average No. of persons per house

4.1

at Census 1911.

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1913.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Cases notified in whole District.							Total cases notified in each Locality.				Total cases removed to Hospital	
	At all Ages.	At Ages (Years)						Central Ward	West Ward	East Ward	North Ward		
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65						65 and upwards
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera (C) Plague (P)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)...	29	8	20	1	...	...	...	...	9	9	10	1	5
Erysipelas ...	5	9	27	13	3	4	1	...	1	1	1	1	38
Scarlet fever ...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	26	18	2	...
Typhus fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever ...	24	1	5	9	15	4	...	...	3	6	17	8	29
Relapsing fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever ...	4	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Polio-myelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	27	...	1	3	5	10	8	...	12	5	6	4	7
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	12	2	3	6	1	...	...	...	2	4	4	2	...
Totals ...	163	20	56	33	27	18	9	...	36	53	56	18	79

TABLE III.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1913.

Causes of Death.		Nett deaths at the subjoined ages of residents whether occurring within or without the District.									Total deaths whether of Residents or Non-Residents in Institutions in the District.
		All Ages	Under 1 year.	1 & under 2 years.	2 & under 5 years.	5 & under 15 years.	15 & under 25 years.	25 & under 45 years.	45 & under 65 years.	65 and upwards	
All causes	Certified	219	31	5	3	6	13	29	54	78	
	Uncertified	3	1						1	1	
1	Enteric Fever	6				1	1	4			
2	Small-pox										
3	Measles	1	1								
4	Scarlet Fever										
5	Whooping Cough	1	1								
6	Diphtheria and Croup	3				3					
7	Influenza	1							1		
8	Erysipelas	1								1	
9	Phthisis	16					4	3	4	5	
	(Pulmonary Tuberculosis)										
10	Tuberulous Meningitis										
11	Other Tuberulous diseases	3					3				1
12	Cancer, malignant disease	20						5	8	7	4
13	Rheumatic Fever	1							1		
14	Meningitis	5	1	1			1		1	1	
15	Organic Heart Disease	26				1	1	4	12	8	
16	Bronchitis	7	1					1	2	3	
17	Pneumonia (all forms)	28	6	3	1			4	6	8	3
18	Other diseases of respiratory organs										
19	Diarrhoea and Enteritis	15	10	1		1		1	2		
20	Appendicitis & Typhlitis										
21	Cirrhosis of Liver	2							2		
21a	Alcoholism										
22	Nephritis & Bright's Disease	13						2	5	6	
23	Puerperal Fever										
24	Other Accidents & diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition										
25	Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	5	5								
26	Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	9	1		2		1	2	2	1	4
27	Suicide	1					1				
28	Other Defined Diseases	58	6				1	3	9	39	1
29	Diseases ill defined or unknown										
Totals		222	32	5	3	6	13	29	55	79	13

TABLE IV.
INFANT MORTALITY.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 year.

CAUSES OF DEATH		Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 3 months	3 months & under 6 months	6 months & under 9 months	9 months & under 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
All causes	Certified	7	1	1	.....	9	11	3	6	2	31
	Uncertified	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
<hr/>											
Small-pox	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chicken-pox	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Measles	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1
Scarlet fever	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Whooping-Cough	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1
Diphtheria and Croup	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Erysipelas	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1
Convulsions	...	2	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Laryngitis	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bronchitis	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	1	1	.....	6
Diarrhoea	...	.....	.....	1	.....	1	1	1	1	1	5
Enteritis	...	.....	1	.....	.....	1	2	2	1	.....	5
Gastritis	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Syphilis	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1
Rickets...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Suffocation, overlying	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1
Injury at birth...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Atelectasis	...	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Congenital Malformations	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Premature birth	...	5	.....	.....	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	2
Other Causes	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
<hr/>											
TOTALS...	...	8	1	1	.....	10	11	3	6	2	32

Nett Births in the year } legitimate 266
 } illegitimate 4

Nett deaths in the year of } legitimate infants 31
 } illegitimate infants 1

MEASLES occurred in Epidemic form during the months of April, May and June and chiefly in East and West Wards. As the disease is not notifiable the number of cases could not be ascertained, but the attendance at the Infant Departments at St. Andrew's and Rowlands Schools was very much reduced. On a visit to St. Andrew's School on April 18th, I was informed that about 40 infants were absent. Exclusion of children from infected homes was relied upon and the Infant Department was thoroughly sprayed with formalin at the week-end. In June I visited Rowlands School several times and was informed of a gradually reduced attendance until very few children were left in the Infant Department. On my recommendation this department was closed between June 13th and 23rd and thoroughly fumigated with sulphur. One death was attributable to measles.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES. 163 Notifications of Infectious Diseases were received during 1913. This number includes 39 notifications of Tuberculosis (all forms) and is 87 in excess of the number for the previous year. The increase is due to the greater number of Tuberculosis 39—previous year 28. Diphtheria 29, previous year 10. Scarlet Fever 52, previous year 6. Typhoid Fever 34, previous year 22. There were also 5 notifications of Erysipelas and 4 of Puerperal Fever.

TABLE A	Small-pox.	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	Scarlet Fever.	Erysipelas.	Typhus Fever.	Typhoid Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Cholera	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Poliomyelitis.	Tuberculosis (all forms)	TOTAL.
January	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	5
February...	2	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	12	16
March	2	1	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	3	8
April	2	1	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	4	9
May	4	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	8
June	2	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	11
July	12	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	18
August	4	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	8
September	1	5	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	8
October	5	16	.....	.....	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	39
November	8	2	1	.....	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	19
December	6	1	1	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	14
Total	29	52	5	.....	34	4	.....	.....	...	39	163

SMALL-POX. No case of small-pox has occurred in the Urban District since 1904, when there were 8 cases with 1 death ; 6 of them unvaccinated, one doubtful, and 1 adult vaccinated in infancy only. As regards vaccination, the Vaccination Officer assures me that there is from year to year an increasing disposition on the part of parents to seek exemption from vaccination for their children. The figures for 1913 are that of 270 children born, 83 were vaccinated, 162 exempted and 25 either dead or left the district. This large proportion of exemptions is a matter for serious concern, for one feels that there is now ready to hand all the material—in the form of unvaccinated children—for a conflagration whenever Small-pox gets a firm hold upon the community. I daresay that with most of the parents it is a case of out of sight out of mind more than a disbelief in the protective value of vaccination, and that as soon as Smallpox appears in our midst they will rush their children and themselves to be vaccinated, as has been the case on former occasions. But I would remind them that just as the greatest strain is placed upon the available machinery for vaccination, by some unforeseen circumstance, it may break down, and a delay of a day or two take place making all the difference between the protection which vaccination assuredly affords and a fatal attack of smallpox.

SCARLET FEVER. Number of Notifications 52. This number is an increase of 46 upon that of the previous year when 6 cases only were notified. The first two cases occurred in North Ward and the next in Central Ward, but the bulk of the cases—44—occurred in Summerseat where the disease existed in mild epidemic form from May to December. The first three cases in Summerseat were of young operatives in a large cotton mill and then it attacked the school children. The maximum monthly notifications were, in July 12, and October 16 ; the minimum, in November 2, and December 1. Generally speaking the disease was of a mild type and not any deaths occurred. It was not considered necessary to close any of the Schools, and exclusion of scholars from infected houses was the procedure adopted.

Quarterly Incidence :

	1st quarter	2nd quarter	3rd quarter	4th quarter.
Cases :	1	11	21	19

Ward Distribution :

	Central	North	East	West
Cases :	6	2	18	26

Age Distribution :

	under 1 year.	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	over 65
Cases :		9	27	13	3		

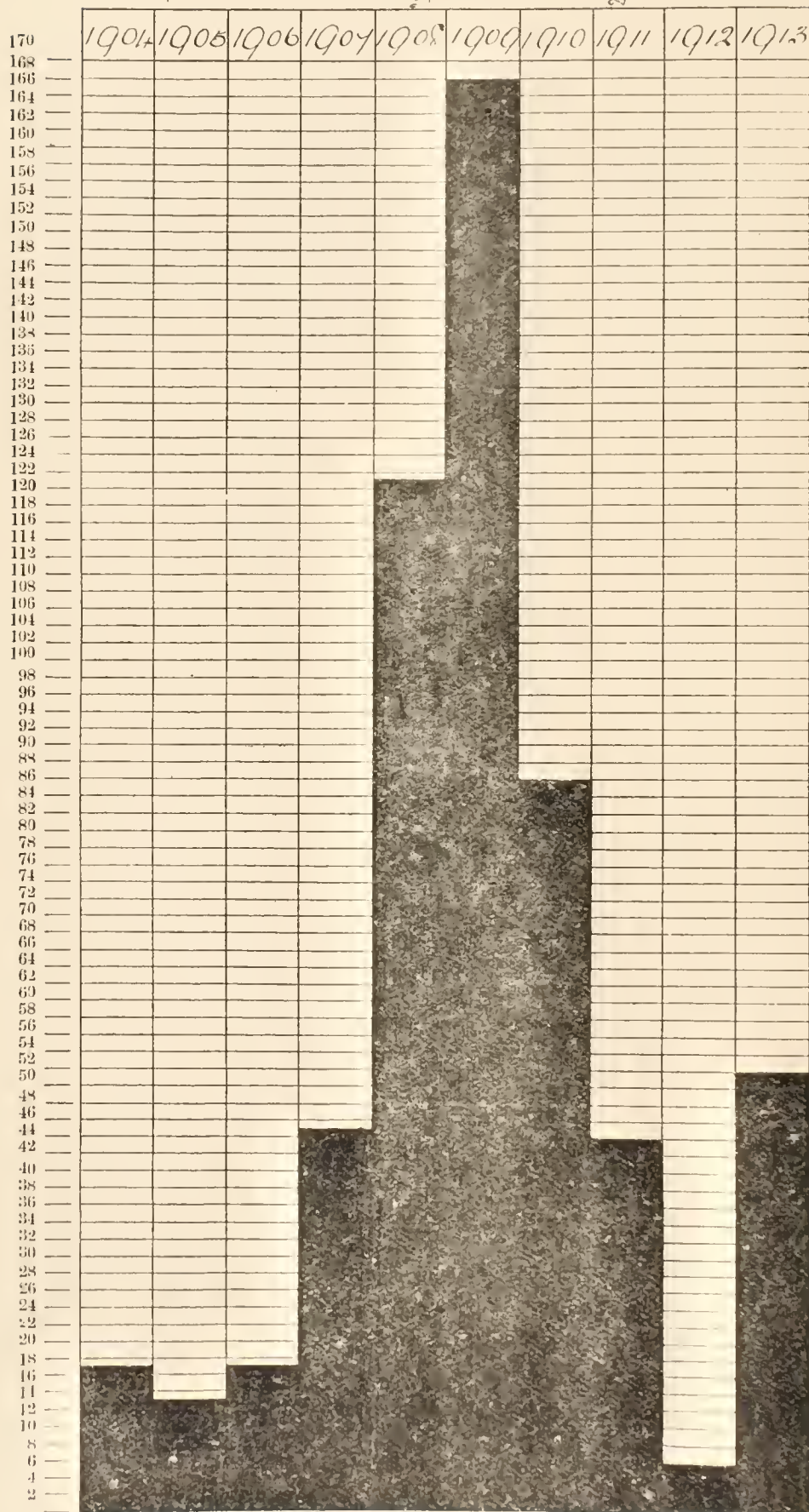
Cases removed to Hospital .. 38.

Cases and deaths during the last 10 years :

	1904	-5	-6	-7	-8	-9	10	11	12	-13
Cases :	17	13	17	45	121	168	86	44	6	52
Deaths :	...	...	3	1	3	2	...	3	...	

Upon removal of a case to Hospital and upon recovery of a case nursed at home, the house is visited by one of your men whose duty it is to spray with formalin the walls, floors, bedding, etc., of the room or rooms in recent occupation by the case, disinfectants for cleansing purposes are also supplied from the Public Health Office free of charge upon request to inmates of infected houses. Instructions in leaflet form of the nature of the disease and how to prevent it spreading are also delivered to those in charge of cases.

—SCARLET FEVER—
—CASES DURING LAST 10 YEARS—



Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.

No. of Cases Notified	...	29.
No of Deaths	...	3.
Case Mortality	...	10.34.

29 cases of Diphtheria and Membranous Croup were notified during the year, an increase of 19 upon the previous year's total 10, and an increase of 12 upon the number—17 for 1911.

3 cases were recorded giving a case mortality of 10.34 per cent. For the previous year there were 3 deaths in 10 cases and for 1911 2 deaths in 17 cases.

5 cases were admitted to the Florence Nightingale Hospital, 2 of which proved fatal. I should like to mention that the cases sent to Hospital are usually very severe and in need of unremitting professional attention. Of the 24 cases treated at home there was 1 death.

Quarterly Incidence :

	1st quarter	2nd quarter	3rd quarter	4th quarter
Cases :	5	4	1	19
Death :	...	1	...	2

As the above table shows the greater proportion of cases occurred in the 4th quarter. During this quarter there was much sickness which partook largely of sore throats and was very infectious since several cases of sore throat one after the other would occur in the same house. Perhaps one of them would show Diphtheritic Membrane and be promptly treated with Antitoxin. It was noted also by the Medical Practitioners in charge that if antitoxin were given to some cases not showing any membrane on the throat they cleared up and got well sooner than others similarly situated who were not treated with antitoxin. It is therefore conceivable that Diphtheria prevailed to a larger extent than is represented by the notifications.

Ward Distribution :

	Central	North	East	West	Total.
Cases :	9	1	10	9	29
Deaths :	...	1	2	...	3

Notifications and Deaths at age periods.

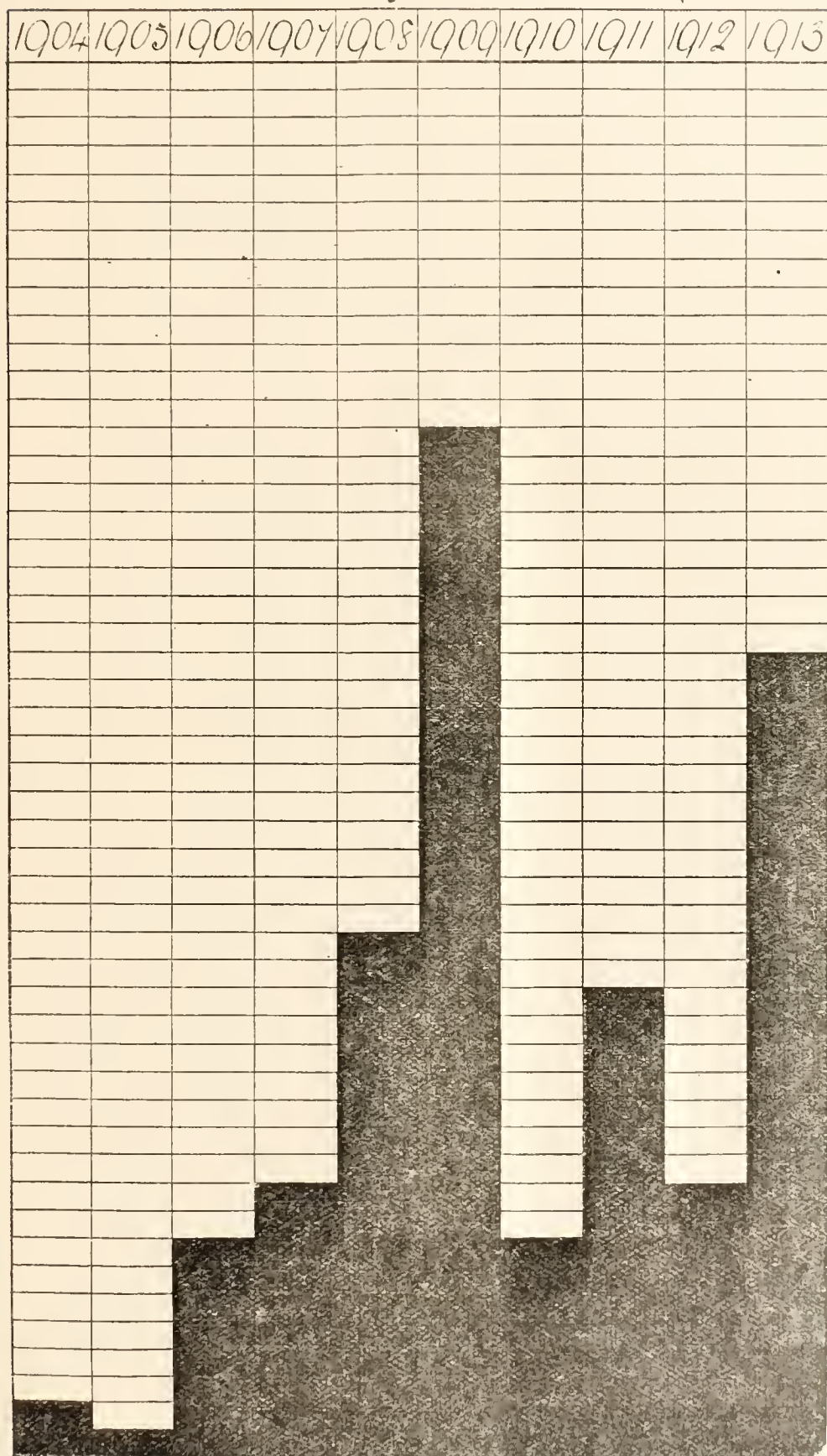
	under 1 year	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	over 65
Cases :	...	8	20	1	...	...	...
Deaths :	3	...	...	...	...

Cases and Deaths for the last 10 years

	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
Cases :	2	1	8	10	19	37	8	17	10	29
Deaths :	1	1	4	2	7	3	1	2	3	3

Antitoxin is supplied by yourselves from the Public Health Office free to Medical Practitioners for treatment of cases whose circumstances warrant it within the Urban District.

Diphtheria CASES DURING LAST 10 YEARS



BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

MONTH.	DIPHTHERIA		TYPHOID.		TUBERCULOSIS			
					Sputum		Milk.	
	Total	+	Total	+	Total	+	Total	+
January								
February			1	1				
March								
April								
May			3	2				
June								
July			2	2				
August			1	0				
September	1	0						
October			1	1				
November			14	9				
December			4	3				
Total	1	0	26	18				

• **Typhoid Fever.** No. of cases notified 34 Deaths 6. Case Mortality rate 17·65 per cent.

Ward distribution :

	Central	West	East	North
Notifications	3	6	17	8
Deaths .. ..	...	...	4	2

Age Periods :

	Under 1 year	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	Over 65
Notifications	1	5	9	15	4	..
Deaths	1	1	4	...	..

Monthly incidence :

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept	Octr	Nov.	Dec
Notifications	1	...	...	2	...	4	...	...	15	8	4

Thirty-four cases of typhoid fever were notified during the year, an increase of 12 upon the previous year. Most of the cases occurred in the fourth quarter (see incidence table above) and 20 of them were notified between October 21st and November 9th. They were not confined to one locality but scattered throughout the district, although 11 cases occurred in Summerseat and 7 in the neighbourhood of Nuttall Lane. Three cases occurred in one house and two each in other two houses in Summerseat, and three cases occurred in one house in Edenfield. The others occurred singly and altogether 28 houses were implicated.

WATER SUPPLY.

Three houses had one private water supply, three another private supply, and three had each a private supply. The others had town's water (Bury and District Joint Water Board).

MILK SUPPLY.

There were altogether 26 different milk supplies and of these two supplied four cases each, seven supplied two cases each and the rest single cases. A number of the cases had a joint supply.

Enquiries regarding consumption of the following articles of food were made with the result stated under.

Water Cress	...	...	...	...	...	0	Cases
Celery	...	...	...	...	...	5	"
Fruit	Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	3	"
	Bananas	...	...	...	...	7	"
	Apples	...	...	...	...	9	"
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	4	"
Shellfish	...	...	...	...	...	4	"
Storage of Milk mostly unsatisfactory.							
Previous cases in the same family 4 and 1 doubtful.							

The above data do not present any indication of a common source of infection, and only in one case was there a reasonable connection between shellfish and the disease. In this instance the patient only, in a family of five, partook of shellfish which were not fresh and almost immediately caused gastric disturbance. Three weeks later typhoid fever was diagnosed and the patient sent to Hospital.

Types of sanitary convenience in the 28 houses wherein typhoid fever occurred.

Fresh Water closets	...	...	...	4
Waste Water closets	...	...	...	13
Pail closets	...	...	...	5
Privy middens	...	...	...	6

The following table gives the types of sanitary convenience, the approximate number of each type in the District, the number of typhoid cases in houses having separate types, and the percentage

of proportional attacks for each type for the year, and for 1912.

Type of Closet.	No. in District.	Typhoid Cases	Percentage of Proportional attacks	
			1913	1912
W.C. ...	700	4	.57	.17
W.W.C.	1311	17	1.29	.84
P.C....	630	6	.95	.87
P.M.	500	7	1.4	.71

The figures in this table show the rate of attack to be proportionately much less for houses having fresh water closets than any other type, but at the same time it must be noted that more houses relatively are served by the 3 other types than by fresh water closets, for as regards the latter not more than one house may be assigned to each, whereas several houses may have but one of the other types amongst them.

On the basis of 700 houses and the rest, I have calculated the percentage rates of attack and I find for last year in 700 houses with fresh W. C's. the percentage rate of attack is .57, while for the remaining houses-3232 it is .92. For 1912 and 1913 combined, the respective percentages are for fresh W. C's .38, for all other types .78, a difference of more than double ; besides it must not be overlooked that the baneful influence of the undesirable types of closets is not confined to their immediate proximity.

Privy middens and Waste water closets seem to be worse than pails, which is probably correct, for pails being limited to a certain capacity have to be emptied regularly whereas middens are emptied at much longer intervals and W.W. C's cleansed in large measure not at all. There are frequent complaints of choking of WWC's and of the tippers not acting which require a large proportion of the time of your own men to put them right. Occupiers seldom take the trouble to clean the shaft which becomes horribly befouled and if there is any truth in "fly borne" diseases every facility is afforded by these and privy middens to flies to do their deadliest. In November last I drew your attention to this aspect of affairs and, in the absence of any more

definite cause for the outbreak, suggested that flies might have been instrumental, since cold weather in the beginning of October had driven flies into the houses in large numbers. Whether or not there is truth in this suggestion will remain a matter for doubt, but the figures I have placed before you, although of comparative insignificance, yet undeviatingly point to one interpretation; viz :—that the presence of Privies, Pails, and Waste Water Closets is a menace to the public health and the sooner they are abolished the better. Their conversion to a better type goes on apace and with your emphatic approval. But further, I respectfully urge upon you that not under any circumstances where it is possible to have fresh water will you give permission to substitute for pails or privies the equally undesirable W.W.C.

A special report upon the Epidemic was asked for and despatched to the L. G. B. in November.

Twenty-nine cases were removed to the Florence Nightingale Hospital where 4 died, 5 cases were nursed at home, with two deaths.

Cases and deaths for the last 10 years

		1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913
Cases...	...	22	10	10	10	8	5	12	17	22	34
Deaths	...	6	..	2	3	2	...	4	2	7	6

Pails and disinfectants are supplied when cases are nursed at home and the stools and urine after disinfection discharged into a water closet or buried at the nearest tip.

Below is a notice printed at your request and posted up in prominent places throughout the Urban District during the epidemic of October and November last.—

Typhoid Fever has reappeared in the Urban District and I urgently request the public, by giving careful attention to the following instructions, to assist in preventing the spread of this serious malady :

The Germs (Infection) are conveyed by contaminated food

and drink. They live and multiply in the bodies of those suffering from the disease and escape therefrom, principally by the kidneys and bowels.

In many ways, and without being suspected, food and drink become contaminated with these germs. They are destroyed by a temperature of boiling water, therefore cooked food is unlikely to convey infection. Uncooked food and drink, such as fruit, vegetables, milk, and water, are the channels through which the disease usually spreads, hence the necessity for the most scrupulous care in the consumption of these articles

I strongly recommend: That whatever food can be, should be cooked. That all food or drink about which there can be any suspicion should not be consumed in a raw or uncooked state. That milk on coming into the house should at once be boiled, then stored in vessels with a suitable covering to exclude flies and dust; and particularly where there are local water supplies, that all water should be boiled before use.

If the public will carefully observe these few and simple rules, I am convinced that Typhoid Fever will speedily disappear from our midst.

Signed, HUGH LAWRIE, M.B., etc., Medical Officer of Health.
Public Health Offices, Ramsbottom.

TYPHOID FEVER.

PARTICULARS OF ALL THE CASES.

No.	Date of Notification	Sex	Age	District	Water Supply	Closest Accommodat'n	Ashes Accommodat'n	House B to B or Through
	1913							
1	Feb. 24	F	34	Nuttall Lane	T	WWC	Dry Ashpit	T
2	May 6	M	17	Peel Brow	T	WWC	do	T
3	" 9	F	12	Nuttall Lane	T	WWC	do	T
4	July 16	F	16	Shuttleworth	T	PM	Midden	T
5	" 16	F	23	Nuttall Lane	T	PM	do	T
6	" 25	F	43	Albert Street	T	WWC	Dry Ashpit	T
7	" 28	F	54	Edenfield	T	PC	do	T
8	Oct. 1	M	45	Chatterton	T	WC	Bin	T
9	" 2	M	37	Victoria Street	T	WWC	Dry Ashpit	T
10	" 21	M	32	Summerseat	T	WWC	do	T
11	" 25	F	47	do	P	WC	Bin	T
12	" 28	F	18	Nuttall Lane	T	WWC	Dry Ashpit	T
13	" 28	M	25	Shuttleworth	T	WWC	do	T
14	" 30	M	24	Summerseat	P	WC	do	B to B
15	" 30	M	33	do	P	PM	Open Midden	B to B
16	" 30	M	22	do	P	PM	do	B to B
17	" 30	M	28	do	T	WWC	Dry Ashpit	T
18	" 31	F	39	Edenfield	T	WWC	do	T
19	" 31	M	38	do	T	WWC	do	T
20	" 31	M	15	do	T	WWC	do	T
21	" 31	M	27	Gollinrod	P	PM	Midden	B to B
22	" 31	F	32	Nuttall Lane	T	WWC	Dry Ashpit	B to B
23	Nov. 1	M	26	Shuttleworth	T	PM	Open Midden	T
24	" 2	F	43	Summerseat	P	WC	Bin	T
25	" 3	F	29	Edenfield	T	PC	do	T V
26	" 3	M	19	Shuttleworth	T	WWC	do	T
27	" 6	M	8	Nuttall Lane	T	WWC	Dry Ashpit	B to B
28	" 9	M	45	Hardsough	T	PC	Bin	T
29	" 9	M	26	do	T	PC	do	T
30	" 15	M	13	Summerseat	P	PC	do	T V
31	Dec. 6	M	10	do	P	PM	Open Midden	B to B
32	" 6	M	8	do	P	PC	Bin	T V
33	" 13	M	20	Nuttall Lane	T	WWC	Dry Ashpit	T
34	" 15	M	2	Summerseat	T	WWC	do	T

Water : T Town's supply ; P Private supply.

Houses : B to B back to back ; T through ; TV through ventilation.

Typhoid FEVER
CASES, DURING LAST 10 YEARS.

[illegible]

Tuberculosis. Under "The Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations 1911," Tuberculosis of the Lungs became compulsorily notifiable within the Urban District on January 1st, 1912. These regulations remained in force until February 1st, 1913, when "The Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations 1912," became operative and made notification not only of the Lungs but of all other forms of Tuberculosis compulsory. Notifications are to be made upon special forms A B C and D. Article IV reads—

"For the Purpose of these Regulations—

Every Local Authority shall provide and maintain a sufficient supply of printed copies of the Forms set out in the Schedule A to these Regulations and shall as soon as practicable after these Regulations come into operation and afterwards from time to time when application is made to them furnish—

- (a) printed copies of Form A to every Medical Practitioner resident or practising within the District of the Local Authority.
- (b) printed copies of Form B to the School Medical Inspector or Inspectors of every Public Elementary School situate within the District of the Local Authority; and
- (c) printed copies of Form C and Form D to the Medical Officer of every Poor Law Institution and Sanatorium situate within the District of the Local Authority."

Form A. Notifications on this form 33.

Form B. Notifications on this form 1.

Form C. Notifications on this form 5 All admissions to Aitken Sanatorium.

Form D. Notifications on this form 7: 6 discharges from the Aitken Sanatorium including the above 5 cases, 1 from the previous year and 1 from Meathop Sanatorium near Grange-over-Sands. One of these discharges from the Aitken Sanatorium was of a case which after a month's residence was transferred to the Florence Nightingale Hospital.

Of primary notifications of tuberculosis 39 were received; 27 of tuberculosis of the lungs and 12 of other forms.

Tuberculosis of Lungs. Twenty-seven cases of lung tuberculosis were notified, Males 13 Females 14. Three were notified in January under 1911 Regulations and 24 during the rest of the year under 1912 Regulations. This number is one more than for the previous year and gives an attack rate of 1.7 per 1000 of the estimated population. The attack rate for England and Wales excluding London (which is 7.39 per 1000) for 1913 is 2.22.

Ward Distribution :

Cases :	Central	North	East	West	Total.
Males :	4	3	3	3	13
Females :	8	3	1	2	14

There were 16 deaths : Males 6, Females 10, giving a death rate of 1.03 per 1000. The death rate for the previous year was .65. Mean death rate for ten years for the following towns is—

Bacup	...	...	...	.90
Bury	...	...	...	1.20
Haslingden	..	...	...	.89
Heywood	...	...	...	1.39
Ramshottom	...	...	...	1.29
Rawtenstall	...	...	...	.94
County (last 6 years)	...	...	...	.86
England and Wales (1912 only)	...	...	...	1.045

Age Periods :

		Under 1 year	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	Over 65
Cases	1	3	5	10	8
Deaths	4	3	4	5

OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS.

12 cases of other forms of Tuberculosis were notified: Males 5, Females 7. There were 3 deaths—males 1, females 2, which is equal to a death rate of .19 per 1000, Previous years death rate .39.

Ward distribution :

		Central	East	North	West	Total
Cases :	Males	...	2	1	2	5
	Females	2	2	1	2	7

Age periods.

	under 1 year.	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	over 65
Cases :	...	2	3	6	1	...	...
Deaths :	3	...	...	...

TUBERCULOSIS. All Forms.

Occupation.	Lungs.	Other Tuber. Diseases.
Weaver ...	8	1
No occupation ...	8	2
Warehouse Hand ...	1	..
Pinner in Bleach-works	1	..
Housewife ..	2	..
School Teacher ...	1	..
School Children ...	1	4
Contractor ...	1	..
Quarryman ...	1	..
Charwoman ...	1	..
Tailor ...	1	..
Unknown ...	1	..
Spinner ...	..	1
Piecer ...	..	1
Shop Assistants ...	..	2
Twister ...	..	1
Total ...	27	12

SANATORIUM.

5 Cases—Males 4, Females 1—were admitted to the Aitken Sanatorium during the year. 4 of them as insured cases and entitled to Sanatorium Benefit under the National Insurance Act, and one non-insured case. The term of residence varied from 1 to 8 months, but in the majority of cases was 3 months.

The following table gives the dates of admission and discharge—

		Date of Admission	Date of discharge.
Insured Cases	{ M	Mar. 8, 1913.	June 7, 1913
	{ M	May 8,	Aug. 6,
	{ F	" 9,	June 12,
	{ M	Aug 6,	Sept. 5,
Non-Insured	{ M	Mar. 12	Nov. 6.
	{ M	Oct. 18, 1912	Jan. 8.

Meathop Sanatorium, Grange-over-Sands 1 case (female) from Ramsbottom discharged October 18th, 1913.

The utility of the Sanatorium is two-fold *i.e.* curative and educative. Under the superintendence of Dr. J. Baird Morton every effort is made both to cure the patient and educate him, and the instruction received enables each patient on returning home to continue the treatment as far as circumstances will permit—by proper feeding, sleeping—alone if possible—in a well ventilated bedroom, living as as much as possible in the open air, and last but not least, by taking precautions against conveying the disease to others.

One of the reasons for the various forms of notification under the 1912 Regulations it seems to me, is to make it possible for every Local Authority to avail itself of a continuous record of all cases of Tuberculosis within its administrative area. At present our means are insufficient for adequately supervising the progress of patients returning home from a Sanatorium. We cannot ascertain accurately, whether the improvement begun in the Sanatorium is maintained, how many have returned to work, and how many have ultimately recovered. while those who don't recover become known to us only

through the death returns. Now this is undesirable and is one of the reasons for making me reconsider my advice to you not to adopt the Notification of Births Act unless you appoint a Health Visitor as well. For to visit these tuberculosis cases and report from time to time what progress they were making and what their circumstances are, is just the kind of duty best suited to a health visitor and I would like you to take such appointment into your serious consideration.

The subjoined table gives the particulars collected regarding each case of tuberculosis notified during the year. Leaflets containing precautions to be observed in preventing Tuberculosis are left at the houses. Disinfectants for cleansing purposes are supplied to those who wish and houses are disinfected after a death from Consumption when requested.

Dr. George Lissant Cox has been appointed Chief Tuberculosis Officer to the County Palatine which includes the Ramsbottom Urban District.

No.	Sex	Age	Localisation of Disease.	Date of Notification	House back-to back or through	No. of Rooms.	No in Family	Occupation of same room.	Cleanliness	Ventilation.	Lighting	Probable source of infection.
1	M	16	Hip Joint	Feb 1	T	3	8	1	satisfy	satisfy	good	no idea
2	F	21	Perito' m	1	T	5	5		"	"	"	"
3	F	25	Lungs	15	T	4	6		"	"	"	"
4	F	21	Lungs	15	T	8	5	0	"	"	"	"
5	M	55	Lungs	19	TV	3	2	1	"	Poor	"	"
6	M	67	Lungs	20	T	5	5	0	"	satisfy	"	"
7	F	32	Spine	22	T	6	4	0	"	"	"	"
8	M	15	Perito' m	22	T	4	3	0	"	"	"	"
9	F	69	Lung	24	T	4	6	2	"	"	"	"
10	M	22	Hip Joint	26	T	5	8	0	"	"	"	"
11	F	15	Lung	22	T	5	5	0	"	"	"	"
12	F	59	Lung	22	T	5	3		"	"	"	"
13	M	4	Knee Joint	Mar 15	T	4	4		"	"	"	"
14	F	3	Spine	19	TV	4	4		"	"	"	"
15	F	54	Lung	18								
16	M	25	Lungs	8	NBD	3	3		"	"	"	"
17	M	31	Lungs	8	B B	3	5	1	"	poor*	"	*
18	F	22	Lungs	Apr 3	T	3	5	1	"	satisfy	"	"
19	M	15	Hip Joint	9	T	6	9		"	"	"	"
20	F	12	Cervical Glands	9	T	9	7	1	"	"	"	"
21	M	26	Lungs	9	T	4	5	1	"	"	"	"
22	M	54	Lungs	9	T	4	5		"	"	"	"
23	F	12	Cervical Glands	June 7	T	L H	8		"	"	"	"
24	F	56	Lung	7	B-B	2	5	0	"	poor	"	"
25	F	72	Lung	28	T	4	3		"	satisfy	"	"
26	F	51	Lungs	July 3	T	5	7	1	"	"	"	"
27	F	12	Lungs	3	T	3	8	2	"	"	"	"
28	F	73	Lungs	Aug 12	TV	3	4	1	fair	poor	poor	"
29	M	74	Lung	19	T	6	3	0	satisfy	satisfy	satisfy	"
30	M	74	Lungs	29	T	3	6	0	"	"	"	"
31	M	38	Lung	Sep 17	NBD	4	3	1	"	"	"	"
32	M	75	Lungs	Oct 13	T	4	3	0	"	"	"	"
33	F	6	Cervical Spine	31	T	4	10		"	"	"	"
34	F	48	Lung	28	T	4	6	1	"	"	"	"
35	F	18	Perito' m	Dec 10	T	4	6		"	"	"	"
36	M	50	Lungs	19	NBD	4	5	1	"	"	"	"
37	F	61	Lungs	Jan 6	NBD	3	5	1	"	poor	Poor	x
38	M	52	Lungs	28								
39	M	71	Lungs	31	T				"	good	good	

* Previous case in 1912.

x Another case in house.

T through house.

TV through ventilation.

BB back to back

NBD No back door.

Since going to press the following has been received from the Lancashire County Council.

Scheme for recording Environmental Conditions of Tuberculosis Cases by Dispensary Tuberculosis Officers, and Tuberculosis Nurses.

The Administrative County of Lancaster has been divided into 12 Dispensary Areas. To each of these Areas a Dispensary Tuberculosis Officer has been appointed, and, within the next few weeks, each Area will have one Dispensary Tuberculosis Nurse (to be increased to two when necessary), who will act under the direction of the Dispensary Tuberculosis Officer.

The chief duties of these Nurses will be to visit the homes of persons who have been notified as suffering from Tuberculosis, or who have been granted some form of treatment by the Lancashire County Council or the Lancashire Insurance Committee, and to prepare reports, and generally to assist the Dispensary Tuberculosis Officers.

In the Memorandum of the Local Government Board dated 20th December 1912, relating to the "Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1912," it is stated in regard to Article XII., "It is essential that there should be close co-operation between the Medical Officer of Health and the Tuberculosis Officer of the Dispensary which serves the district of the Sanitary Authority"; and further, "in Counties . . . it may be desirable that the Tuberculosis Officer, or some other Officer of the Dispensary should undertake the duties, or some of the duties of the Medical Officer of Health under the Order, and for this purpose act as an Officer of the Sanitary Authority under the direction of Medical Officer of Health."

In order to give effect to this co-operation, and to prevent overlapping as much as possible, it is suggested that the following procedure should be made a basis for combined action in the Sanitary Districts of the Administrative County:—

- 1—Whenever a new case of Tuberculosis is visited a Report on the Environmental Conditions (specimen form attached) will be made by the Dispensary Tuberculosis Nurse, or the Dispensary Tuberculosis Officer, or his Assistant.
- 2—This report will be made in duplicate, and one copy will be sent to the Medical Officer of Health of the Sanitary District in which the patient resides, and one copy will be retained by the Dispensary Tuberculosis Officer.
- 3—Both copies of the report will be considered as strictly private and confidential.
- 4—If there are any special circumstances with regard to the conditions under which the patient is living, the Dispensary Tuberculosis Officer will draw attention to this in a covering letter, and in sending this letter the Dispensary Tuberculosis Officer will have satisfied himself that the special defects merit attention.

- 5—The Tuberculosis Nurse or the Dispensary Tuberculosis Officer, or his Assistant, will re-visit the patient as occasion arises, and if the conditions already reported still remain unremedied, the attention of the Medical Officer of Health will again be drawn to the facts of the case. After a conference between the Dispensary Tuberculosis Officer and the Medical Officer of Health, or upon a written request by the Medical Officer of Health, the Dispensary Tuberculosis Officer will acquaint the Central Authority of the facts by forwarding a copy of the reports, and any correspondence which may be thought necessary, to the Central Tuberculosis Officer, who will then hand the same to the County Medical Officer of Health.

The County Medical Officer of Health will then take such action in the matter as may be required.

It is of the greatest importance that mutual arrangements should be made between the Local Sanitary Authority, the Medical Officer of Health and the Dispensary Tuberculosis Officer, so that overlapping in the systematic visiting of Tuberculosis cases will not occur.

G. LISSANT COX,

Central Tuberculosis Officer.

Tuberculosis Department,
County Offices, Preston.
9th April, 1914.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply is mainly by the Bury and District Joint Water Board on which the Urban District has two representatives. It is on the constant supply system, is of good quality and abundant. It has a plumbo-solvent action when hot, as for instance in the hot water system of dwelling houses. This water is supplied to 2882 houses (latest figures) in the Urban District. All other occupied houses have private supplies and the chief of these are :—

Higher Buckden reservoir...	...	...	72	houses	Piped supply
Ox Hey, springs and storage	...	...	41	„	„
Tanners Estate, hydraulic and storage	...	...	20	„	„
Woodside, spring and storage	...	...	12	„	„
Hazlehurst, „ „	...	...	50	„	„
Edenfield, „ „	...	...	30	„	„
Pinfold, reservoir	...	...	25	„	„
Hill St. &c. Summerseat, pump & storage	...	...	218	„	„
Bassfield, reservoir...	...	...	11	„	„
Plunge, hydraulic and storage	...	...	11	„	„

Over 300 isolated farms and houses are supplied by wells and springs. There is an abundance of good water in our neighbourhood and most of these supplies are of satisfactory quality. In my report for November I called your attention to Rowlands spout which was used by several householders in Summerseat. I visited this spout on a rainy day and found that the water was very dirty. One householder in the vicinity informed me that it became discoloured a quarter of an hour after the commencement of heavy rain, a sure evidence that surface water, probably from the adjacent roadway, found ready access to the spout. It is the only supply for the houses in Moss Street and Castle Street and in addition to its bad quality is difficient also in quantity. It soon ceases to flow in dry weather when those dependent upon it have to rely upon their nearest neighbours' supply or carry water from a more distant source (Low Mill) near the railway station. Negotiations are at present pending for a reconstruction scheme of Moss and Castle Streets, and the provision of an efficient water supply to these houses will be included in the scheme.

MILK SUPPLY.

There are 74 registered cowkeepers and 108 cowsheds within the Urban District. Of 29 samples of milk taken for analysis during the year 1 was found to be a bit thinner than it should be and the offender was cautioned all the others were in substance and quality what they were represented to be. From an analytical standpoint this is fairly satisfactory: but an analysis of the fat, solids, and water only, is insufficient as a basis for estimating the value of milk as a safe food, since it takes no notice of such disease producing organisms as milk is liable to receive from diseased animals and by careless handling. Therefore my advice to householders is still to boil the milk and when storing it to have it efficiently screened from flies and dust.

The district is extensive and the cowsheds scattered far and wide so that efficient supervision of the milk supply is a practical impossibility. Some of the cowsheds are deficient in light and ventilation having been constructed before such auxiliaries to the well-being of animals were considered of much importance. But everywhere there is a tendency on the part of the cowkeepers to do the best they can under adverse circumstances.

Cleanliness in collecting milk and thorough protection from dust and other impurities during distribution are fundamental necessities for a pure milk supply, and signs are not lacking that the public conscience is awakening to these things. The only recommendation for the present ancient system of distribution is that it gives an equal proportion of all the constituents of milk to each customer, whereas any other heretofore tried, permits of partial separation of the cream and a consequent variation in quality during distribution. I have recently inspected a milk distributing vessel which appears to overcome this difficulty and discharges intimately mixed milk through a small spout near the top of the vessel by simply swinging a handle half a turn. It is the subject of a patent and at present is in the experimental stage only, but I hope that ere long some such vessel as this will be available—I think the public will attend to its adoption—for as cow's milk is such an important food and in the case of many young children, the only food, every precaution should be taken, and if need be, enforced to prevent contamination during its transit from the cow to the consumer.

FOOD STUFFS.

Food stuffs coming into the District continue to be of a satisfactory class and the quality of meat supplied is of a high standard 649 lbs. of meat and offals were surrendered and destroyed during the year. This quantity is more by 271 lbs. than for the previous year. 260 lbs of the total was the weight of the forequarters of a cow slaughtered, (not at a slaughterhouse) and suffering from tuberculosis. The rest was mostly of offals, diseased, some by tuberculosis, but principally by parasites.

No meat was found at any slaughterhouse in such a state as to be unfit for food. The Sanitary Inspector made 203 visits in all to slaughterhouses (15 in number) in the district. They are maintained in a satisfactory condition and no serious contravention of any bye-law was discovered.

As regards meat inspection so long as 15 places for slaughter exist, it must continue to be of a perfunctory character. But when as I hope in the undistant future all slaughtering shall take place under one roof the meat inspection will be both comprehensive and exact for it will be done at the time (the most befitting) of slaughter.

The administration of the "Food and Drugs Act" is in the control of the County Council, and it is gratifying to report that of 46 samples of articles of consumption analysed during the year, all but one of milk aforementioned were what they were represented to be.

SCHOOLS.

There are 9 Public Elementary Schools in the Urban District, the sanitary conditions of which generally speaking are satisfactory. 7 of them have the water carriage system of sewage disposal and 2 the conservancy pail closets being the type. At one of the schools there is a cesspit closet for girls—an undesirable kind—and in my report for 1912 I brought it to your notice with a view to its early conversion to a better type. A sewer runs little more than 100 feet from this school and it would be comparatively easy to convert all the closets to the water carriage system. Representations with this object in view have been made by the Sanitary Inspector to the School

Managers, who in order to avoid unnecessary work prefer to delay our scheme for conversions until another scheme for extensive alterations to the play ground has been settled with the Educational Authority.

The conversion of long hoppers to the syphonic type of water closets at the Edenfield School and reported a year ago as being in progress was completed in the early part of the year.

7 of the Schools are supplied by water from the town's mains and 2 by private supplies.

CLOSURE.

The Infant Department of Rowlands School was closed between June 13th and 23rd by reason of Measles; but this was the only closure during the year.

A considerable amount of infectious disease, chiefly measles and scarlet fever prevailed amongst school children, and it was judged expedient to disinfect St. Andrew's School, Infant Department, on April 26th for measles. Rowlands School, Infant Department, June 20th for measles and the whole of the School at the Rowlands, on Oct 20th for scarlet fever.

The medical inspection of school children within the Urban District is under the authority of the County Council whose Inspector and School Nurse periodically visit the schools for this purpose.

Notice of defects, accompanied by a recommendation to see their own Medical Adviser concerning treatment is forwarded to the parents.

THE HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACTS,
1890 TO 1909.

EXTRACT FROM TABLE 'C' COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

1. Has your Authority determined the procedure to be adopted for the inspection of your District as required by Article I of the Regulations?	yes.
2. Has your Authority prepared, as required by Article I (3) a list of dwelling houses, the early inspection of which is desirable?	yes.
3. Has your Authority designated an officer to undertake the special inspection of houses and to keep the records stipulated by Article 2. If so, what officer?	The Sanitary Inspector.
4. Have the necessary books, forms, etc., for keeping the required records been obtained?	yes.
Number of dwelling houses inspected under Section 17 of the Act 1909?	199
No. of dwelling houses considered unfit for human habitation?	none
Representations to Authority with a view to making Closing Orders.	none
No of closing orders made?	none
No of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied without making closing orders?	105
No. of dwelling houses put into a fit state after making closing orders?	none
No. of dwelling houses demolished?	none
General character of defects found to exist.	Midden privies defective drains Insufficient light and ventila- tion
Is there a deficiency of housing accommodation? If so Where?	Generally thro- ughout the dis- trict

With regard to this last question it is but correct to say that this deficiency of houses does not exist so much for residents as for those people, who finding work in Ramsbottom, have to live outside, but who, were houses available would prefer to live in the town. There is really very little overcrowding at all. Of the 262 houses inspected under these acts, 15 have been found to have a greater proportion of inmates than 2 to each room. Taking this as a standard for estimating the number of overcrowded houses in the district we should have out of 3300 houses not exceeding a rental of £16 a total of 188 cases of overcrowding. I believe this to be very much in excess of the truth, because 10 of the overcrowded houses were in the poorest streets (Bye Road & Union Street) where overcrowding is most common and which ought not to be compared with the rest of the 3300 houses. Besides as the following table shows, 12 of these overcrowded houses have a large scullery—one of them with an open fireplace—that have not been reckoned in the number of rooms to each house, and if included would reduce the number considerably.

OVERCROWDING.

Cemetery Road	Scullery. open fireplace	13'6" x 9'6" x 9'9"	7 persons in 3 rooms
Bye Road	"		9 " 4 "
Bye Road	"	14'3" x 7' x 8'6"	8 " 3 "
Richard St., off Bye Rd.	"	11' x 7'6" x 9'3"	8 " 3 "
"	"	11' x 8' x 9'3"	9 " 3 "
"	"	11' x 8' x 9'3"	7 " 3 "
Market Street	"	14'6" x 6'6" x 7'6"	7 " 3 "
Crowwoods	No Scullery		6 " 2 "
Union Street	No Scullery		7 " 2 "
"	Scullery	11' x 9' x 8'6"	9 " 3 "
"	"	10'6" x 9' x 8'3"	10 " 3 "
"	"	11' x 9' x 8'	9 " 3 "
"	"	11' x 9' x 8'	8 " 3 "
Coulthurst Street	"	11'6" x 10' x 9'	7 " 3 "
Taper Street	"	11' x 11' x 9'6"	8 " 3 "

32 houses have been erected and completed during the year, and many more are in process of erection. The raising of a large new mill and the enlargement of other works have given a decided impetus to the building of houses for the working classes.

HOUSING and Town Planning Act, 1909.

Under Section 17 of this Act, 199 houses have been inspected during the year. For the preceding year 45 houses were inspected. No houses were found unfit for human habitation or so defective as to require a representation to be made to the Local Authority (yourselves) for any closing orders. The defects found consisted principally of privy middens, insufficient light and ventilation, and defective drains. The tables below show first the number and character of defects found and second the defects remedied. That more have not been remedied is due to the fact that for property having many of these defects arrangements are in progress for reconstruction schemes *i.e.* for conversion of back-to-back to through houses and for laying of new sewer so that drains may be coupled up to them, and the houses put upon the water carriage system. It is expected that most of this work will shortly be in progress.

HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING ETC., ACT.

TABLE 1.
DEFECTS FOUND.

Offensive Midden Privies	...	...	...	...	...	...	76
" Pail Closets	...	...	..	...	...	...	52
Defective Drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	133
" Fallpipes to sink wastepipes...	...	...	...	..	..	..	30
" Tipper W.C.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
" Ashpits	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
" Windows	...	...	...	...	...	...	87
" Doors	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
" Plaster, walls and ceilings	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
" Floors	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
" Roofs	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
" Guard rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
" Chimney flues	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
" Yard paving	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
" Eave gutters	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fallpipes and sink wastepipes requiring disconnecting	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Choked drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Drains not connected to sewer	...	...	...	...	...	...	65
" insufficiently trapped	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Insufficient slop-drain accommodation...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Ashpits without doors	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Insufficient light and ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Closed fireplaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Bedroom without door	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Damp Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Sinks requiring cement plinths	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Defective slop sinks	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dirty houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Total.....							639

In conclusion, I beg to thank you for your consideration and help throughout the year, and my fellow Officials for their courteous assistance in the preparation of my report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

HUGH LAWRIE, M.B.,C.M.,D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SANITARY INSPECTOR,
1913.

To the Chairman and Members of the Ramsbottom Urban
District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg herewith to submit to you my Second Annual Report on the work carried out by the Sanitary Department during the year ended 31st December, 1913.

Under the Housing Act of 1909, 199 houses have been inspected. A record of each house has been prepared and is kept for further reference.

During the year 88 complaints have been investigated, 2374 inspections made, and 1353 nuisances dealt with.

The collection of House Refuse has been dealt with by your own staff except in Summerseat, where the work is now done by a local contractor.

I am glad to report again that nothing has arisen necessitating legal proceedings.

The following tables show :

1st, Summary of Inspections, etc.

2nd, Details of defects found.

3rd, Details of defects remedied.

TABLE No. 1.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.							
Dwelling houses H. T. P. Act, 1909	...	...	...	...	...	...	199
" others	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
" Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	89
Factories and Workshops...	...	...	...	...	...	...	96
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	203
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	106
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Offensive Trade Premises...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Markets and Shops...	...	...	...	...	...	...	254
Outworkers' Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Common Lodging House	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Visits to Property under observation	...	...	...	...	...	...	356
Revisits to work in progress	...	...	...	...	...	...	445
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	492
Van dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total.							2374
Complaints	...	...	...	...	...	...	88
Owners seen	...	...	...	...	...	...	247
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
New drains tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Old drains tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	204
Houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	110
Schools disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Legal Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	10

TABLE No. 2.

DEFECTS FOUND.			
Midden Privies requiring converting to W.C's.	...	...	84
Pail Closets	"	"	80
Long Hopper Closets requiring converting to proper W.C's	...	...	8
Tipper Closets	"	(fresh) "	1
Insufficient W C accommodation	...	...	28
Defective drains	..	...	194
" W.C's.	...	...	3
" fallpipes and sink waste pipes	...	...	40
" Tipper closets	...	...	28
" ashpits	...	...	22
" ashes bins	...	...	15
" closet receptacles	...	...	19
" windows	...	...	71
" doors	...	...	4
" plaster walls	...	...	41
" floors	...	...	8
" roofs	...	...	5
" guard rails	...	...	1
" flushing tanks	...	...	3
" chimney flues	...	...	2
" yard paving	...	...	21
" eave gutters	...	...	12
" food store	...	...	1
Fallpipes and sink waste pipes requiring disconnecting	...	...	37
Choked drains	...	...	26
Drains not connected to sewer	...	...	100
" inside houses	...	...	3
" insufficiently trapped	...	...	3
Insufficient slop drain accommodation...	...	...	6
Nuisance from want of drains	...	...	5
Insufficient ashpit accommodation	...	...	7
Ashpits without doors	...	...	16
Offensive accumulations of refuse	...	...	14
Slaughterhouses requiring limewashing	...	...	1
Workshops	"	"	15
Bakehouses	"	"	5
Cowsheds	"	"	4
Insufficient light and ventilation	...	...	13
Closed fireplaces	...	...	8
Overcrowding	...	...	3
Insufficient offal storage...	...	...	3
Bedroom without door	...	...	1
Smoke nuisances	...	...	2
Houses requiring slop sinks	...	...	1
Offensive cesspools	...	...	2
" pigstys	...	...	1
Infected beddings	...	...	3
Damp houses	...	...	18
Choked tipper W.C's.	...	...	365
Total.....			1353

TABLE No. 3.

DEFECTS REMEDIED.					
Drains reconstructed	...	...	...	...	124
„ repaired	...	...	...	...	38
„ cleared	...	...	...	...	27
„ (in connection with Tipper W.C.) cleared	...	...	...	...	365
„ removed from inside house	...	...	...	...	3
„ connected to main sewer	...	...	...	...	118
Long hopper WC's converted to proper washdown WC's	...	...	...	...	8
Midden Privies converted to fresh water closets	...	...	...	...	51
Pail closets	„	„	„	„	58
Tipper closets	„	„	„	„	1
Additional fresh water closets provided	...	...	...	...	28
„ pail closet provided (no sewer available)...	...	...	...	...	1
Midden privies converted to tipper closets	...	...	...	...	13
Ashpits repaired (floors raised, &c )	...	...	...	...	32
„ doors fixed	...	...	...	...	13
New ashes bins provided	...	...	...	...	34
Defective ashes bins replaced	...	...	...	...	18
„ closet receptacles replaced	...	...	...	...	16
Water closets repaired (including tippers)	...	...	...	...	27
Sink waste pipes, eave gutters and fall pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	37
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Yard paving repaired	...	...	...	...	14
Floors	„	„	„	„	4
Doors	„	or replaced	...	...	3
Windows	„	„	„	„	32
Walls and plaster repaired	...	...	...	...	9
Flues repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Cement plinths fixed to sinks	...	...	...	...	11
Waste pipes and fall pipes disconnected from drains	...	...	...	...	31
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	15
Dampness intercepted	...	...	...	...	6
Additional light and ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	11
Bakehouses, slaughterhouses, cowsheds and work-shops lime-washed	...	...	...	...	24
Cesspools abolished	...	...	...	...	2
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	2
New sinks provided	...	...	...	...	1
Ventilation pipes fixed to drains	...	...	...	...	4
Washbasins provided	...	...	...	...	7
Urinal accommodation provided	...	...	...	...	3
Slop sink removed to outer wall	...	...	...	...	1
Houses provided with Town's water	...	...	...	...	7
Closed fireplaces opened	...	...	...	...	7
Food store provided	...	...	...	...	1
New ashpits built	...	...	...	...	2
Flushing tanks repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Infected bedding destroyed	...	...	...	...	3
Closets cleansed	...	...	...	...	3
Additional drains provided	...	...	...	...	14
Total					1236

CONVERSION OF MIDDEN PRIVIES AND PAIL CLOSETS.

Sanitary conveniences on the conservancy system are steadily disappearing from our midst, not as quickly as one could wish, but perhaps as quickly as one can expect. As shown in the foregoing tables 64 privy-middens and 58 pail-closets have been converted to water-closets, and it is gratifying to report that only 13 have been placed upon the waste-water system. Existing closets of this type continue to be a source of great nuisance, no less than 365 having received attention during the year. Complaints of chokage are received almost daily, and the cause, on investigation, is found to be, not always due to negligence on the part of persons using the conveniences, but in many cases to the defective condition of the tipper, causing the solids to accumulate in the shaft, until further use of the convenience is impossible. In many cases no complaint is made until the last named condition obtains. To maintain this class of W. C. in an open condition entails considerable expense to the Council, for during the year no less a sum than £28 1rs. 8d. has been paid in wages for this work.

To those who are interested in the abolition of midden-privies, it will appear strange that the number of Pail-Closets converted is within 6 of that of Midden Privies. This is due partly to one or two factory owners who decided during the year to provide better sanitary accommodation in their works than could be obtained from Pail Closets, also, that part of the accommodation at Strongstry which comprised 43 Pail-Closets and 13 Midden Privies was being converted to the fresh water system at the end of the year.

The Midden Privy is certainly more objectionable than the Pail Closet but both receive a welcome departure.

As in previous years the same difficulty with reference to conversions to the fresh-water system has been experienced. Many owners of property have a strong dislike to paying a water rate on each convenience, after having laid out money on conversions. I still hold that every house should be allowed one W.C. free of water-charge.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

The following table shows the number of observations taken, together with the number of minutes during which black smoke was emitted, and the average number of minutes of black smoke emitted per hour's observation.

Number of Observations Taken	Number shewing moderate Smoke or none.	Number shewing Black Smoke	Total Minutes of Black Smoke.	Average number of minutes of Black Smoke per hour's Observation.
19	9	10	97½	5 13

The limit (12 minutes) of black smoke was exceeded on 3 occasions. In the first case, during an hour's observation black smoke was emitted for a period of 20 minutes. The owner of the works was interviewed regarding the nuisance which was evidently due to careless stoking. There has been no cause for further complaint.

In the second case black smoke was emitted for 20 minutes during the hour's observation. A visit was paid to the works and subsequently a letter of warning forwarded to the Managing Director, who, in acknowledging same, stated, that owing to shortage of water (during the latter part of the Summer) it had been impossible to work the economisers satisfactorily, and in consequence the boilers had been overworked. He also stated that every precaution would be taken to obviate a recurrence of the nuisance. A subsequent observation did not show any improvement, but the Manager reported that a patent smoke-consumer was being fixed to the boiler and that it was expected that the new appliance would considerably reduce the amount of black smoke emitted.

There are several chimneys in the district of which verbal complaints have been made, but which do not emit black smoke in excess of the limit of 12 minutes which is of course high, and amongst the highest in the country.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

In connection with the above, 96 inspections have been made, the majority of which were of workshops. The duties of the Sanitary Inspector regarding this work are chiefly in connection with workshops, in which he is armed with full powers while in factories contraventions of the factory act with respect to sanitary conveniences, and fire escapes are dealt with only after notification to the District Council by the Factory Inspector. Such contraventions are then dealt with as nuisances under Sec. 91 of the Public Health Act, 1875. Two such notifications have been received, one having regard to sanitary conveniences for both sexes being approached by one common path; the second being a notification of insufficient closet accommodation. Both cases were investigated and the remedial work was duly carried out.

At several factories additional and improved sanitary accommodation has been provided. These improvements were chiefly conversions of pail-closets to water closets. At Bridge Mills, Edenfield, 16 were converted and 6 additional W.C's provided. At Hope Mill, 6 pail-closets were converted to W.C's and 6 additional ones provided, together with urinal and lavatory accommodation.

At Cuba Mill 2 foul cesspools, into which 10 W.C's discharged have been demolished, and an iron drainage system substituted. The W.C's are now connected to the Council's sewer.

Minor improvements have been carried out at other factories.

The workshops at present on the register number 61. These have been inspected and 7 were found in want of cleansing and limewashing but with those exceptions nothing was found to which one could make objection.

The following is a list of workshops (exclusive of bakehouses and Offensive Trade Premises) at present on the register. Three have been added and 3 discontinued during the year. One notice of occupation of a workshop was received from His Majesty's Inspector of Factories.

Dressmakers...	...	...	...	6
Milliners	...	...	...	5
Tailors	...	...	...	3
Hosiery	...	...	...	1
Clogs and Shoes	...	...	...	22
Plumbers	...	...	...	2
Tinsmiths	...	...	...	1
Blacksmith	...	...	...	6
Wheelwrights	...	...	...	3
Basket Maker	...	...	...	1
Cooper	...	...	...	1
Joiners and Cabinet Makers	...	...	...	2
Harness Maker	...	...	...	1
Painters	...	...	...	5
Herb Beer Manufacturers	...	...	...	2
Total ...				<u>61</u>

BAKEHOUSES.

The number of Bakehouses in the district at present is 17 (one is underground) and to these 25 visits were made.

The Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, requires all inside walls, all ceilings, passages, etc., whether plastered or not, to be either painted with oil or varnish or limewashed, or partly painted and partly limewashed. If painted, the walls must be washed down with soap and water once in 6 months; if limewashed, the limewashing must be renewed once during the same period. None of the bakehouses here are painted. In five cases it was found that the work of limewashing was slightly overdue, but the work was promptly carried out after a verbal report to each occupier.

OFFENSIVE TRADE PREMISES.

The number and nature of the Offensive Trades (exclusive of fish-frying shops) are as follows:—Tripe-boilers 2, Soap-boilers 2, Tallow Melter 1, Gut Scraper 1.

Eleven inspections have been made during the year and with the exception of one case where the premises were not up to the standard of cleanliness, it has been unnecessary to report any contravention of the Byelaws.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE.

The only Common Lodging House in the town is in Paradise Street. Regular inspections have been made, but nothing has been found worthy of complaint. The registered keeper is a person of good character and appears to be an able manager. The premises throughout, on inspection, have been found invariably in good sanitary condition. There is accommodation for 86 persons, and at present there are 68 single and 9 double beds, only 2 females are in lodging at the present time.

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, under which the house is registered, gives power to Local Authorities (if the keeper were registered after the passing of the Act) to register Common Lodging House keepers, only for a short time, not to exceed 12 months. The Local Authority may however, if the keeper is considered a fit and proper person, renew the registration from time to time. With this provision in the law it behoves a keeper to maintain his house in good order.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There has been no change regarding slaughter-houses during the year, no new ones have been established and none discontinued. There are 15 of these places on the register, all of which are private. Twelve are licensed annually and 3 others being in existence previous to the provisions of the Towns Improvement Clauses Act coming into force within the district, are registered. 203 visits have been made but no serious contravention of the Byelaws necessitating a report to the Council has been found. The structural conditions, as I reported last year, do not meet exactly with the suggestions set out in the L. G. B. memorandum, but that is all that can be said. The general conditions are good, and the places are, as a rule, satisfactorily maintained. A few items in the memorandum and the Byelaws are as follows—(1) The slaughter-house must not be within 100 feet of any dwelling house (2) The site should be such as to admit of free ventilation on at least two sides (3) The approach should not be through any dwelling house or shop (4) There must

be a good supply of pure water (5) The floor to be of asphalt or concrete and laid with a fall to a gully trap outside (6) The walls to be limewashed four times each year (7) No dog to be kept in a slaughter-house.

The latter condition is a very important one, but appears to be ignored by many butchers. Dogs are the hosts of several species of tape-worms, the eggs of which become detached and often fall on grass land. When these eggs are taken up, as they often are, by ruminants, the eggs hatch out and are the cause of many parasite diseases, which affect most commonly the organs of the animal. Livers and lungs are often rendered totally unfit for food by such diseases. It may happen that the function of the organ is so severely affected that the animal becomes emaciated and the carcase rendered unfit for food. The cycle of the disease is as follows—A small cyst may have been removed by the butcher when slaughtering and thrown on the floor of the slaughter-house the dog consumes the scrap and becomes infected with the tape worm, the eggs of the tapeworm become detached and fall to the ground from whence they are taken up by other animals which develop cystic diseases. Certain animals are more susceptible than others to certain diseases. The cycle is continually in operation and the dog plays a principal part.

The following table shows the approximate number of food animals slaughtered within the district annually :—

Beasts	...	...	...	1660
Sheep	...	...	...	6560
Pigs	...	...	...	1020
Calves	...	...	...	300
				<hr/>
Total				9540
				<hr/>

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

This is an important branch of Public Health Work and occupies a fair amount of your Sanitary Inspector's time, owing chiefly to the fact that the slaughter-houses are widespread throughout the district.

The chief slaughtering day is Monday but some butchers slaughter on other days according to the state of the weather, the practice being to slaughter a little earlier in Winter and later in Summer.

The slaughter-houses regularly used, are visited at some part of the day on Mondays and as many carcasses and offals as possible inspected previous to their removal to the various shops. An inspection after such removal, or without the offals, is almost futile, as the various organs usually give the best indication of any disease that may be present.

Occasionally visits are paid on other days, but owing to the irregularity of slaughtering, later calls are often of no avail.

The meat supplied throughout the district is generally of very good quality, and from my own observations I am satisfied that there is no cause for complaint.

At the beginning of the year at one of the local farms, it was found necessary to slaughter a cow which was apparently suffering from some acute attack of the brain. The animal was dressed and found to be affected by Tuberculosis; the pleura, lungs, brain and one or two glands of the forequarters showing slight tubercular deposits. The Medical Officer of Health was consulted and it was decided to destroy both forequarters and to allow the hind-quarters, which showed no signs of disease, to be sold for food. The carcass was a well nourished one.

The fish stall on the Market Place is inspected regularly and the fish and fruit shops about the town also receive attention.

The amount of meat, offals, etc., surrendered during the year is 649 lbs, all of which were destroyed by fire.

COWSHEDS.

There are 108 cowsheds on 80 farms and at present 74 cowkeepers are on the Register. Many of the cowsheds are well constructed, light, and satisfactorily ventilated, but others leave much to be desired. As the law stands at present however, imposing

the work of repairs, structurally and otherwise upon the tenant, there is a difficulty in getting these places put into such a condition which would meet the requirements of the regulations. During the year one cowshed has been entirely reconstructed and provision made for a cubic capacity of over 700 feet per cow, together with additional light and ventilation. The drainage also was reconstructed.

At another farm additional light and ventilation were provided in the cowshed.

In accordance with a resolution passed by the Health Committee regarding limewashing of cowsheds, a notice was served in May on every occupier requiring such work to be carried out in June and October. Inspections were made early in July and out of 108 sheds only 8 were found unlimewashed. The persons responsible promised to do the necessary work as early as possible. The work was carried out satisfactorily except in one case, in which the occupier, after the second visit had been paid, was served with a legal notice, after which the work was done. A complete inspection was not made after the October cleansing but the sheds visited were found clean and satisfactory.

PUBLIC URINALS.

There are now only 5 public Urinals in the district 2 having been removed during the year. The one which stood previously at Waterside Road, Summerseat, as reported last year, was in a dilapidated state and lacked privacy. The structure has however, been removed and one of an up to-date design is to be erected on a more suitable site. The Urinal that stood at the end of the Horse and Jockey Inn, Edenfield, was of little public benefit except to the public house, and being improperly used became a nuisance to the neighbourhood. Proper provision has been made at the rear of the Inn and it was afterwards deemed unnecessary to construct another convenience for public use.

The Urinal in Stubbins Lane, now that the old fair-ground is being built upon, is not in a suitable position having little or no privacy. A modern convenience in this neighbourhood is very desirable.

Regular attention is given to the Public Urinals and every morning they are cleansed and disinfected.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS.

The following particulars kindly supplied by Mr. Superintendent Pickering, of the County Police Office, Bury, shew the number and nature of samples taken in Ramsbottom for the purpose of analysis. This work is carried out by the County Council and the Police are the Officers usually employed to take the samples.

The number of samples purchased is in accordance with the Board of Agriculture's suggestion which is that 3 samples per 1000 population be taken each year.

Milk	...	...	...	29
Butter	...	...	...	7
Cheshire Cheese	...	...	...	2
Lancashire Cheese	..	...	...	1
Lard	...	...	...	2
Margarine	...	...	...	2
Yeast	...	...	...	1
Scotch Whisky	...	...	...	1
Coffee	...	...	...	1
				—
				46

All the above samples were satisfactory with the exception of one sample of Milk which contained a slight excess of water. The vendor was let off with a caution.

SCAVENGING DEPARTMENT

As in previous years the collection and disposal of house refuse have been carried out by your own staff except in Summerseat where the work since July, has been done by a local contractor. The new arrangement is more satisfactory and economical, as the whole time

can now be devoted directly to scavenging instead of being partially taken up by travelling to and from Summerseat as was formerly the case.

Practically all wet refuse in Central, East and West Wards (except Summerseat) is collected at night, and the arrangement serves two important purposes ; viz :—(1)—that two horses are always at liberty at the fire station in case of fire and (2)— from a sanitary standpoint, that practically all refuse from closet receptacles and midden privies may be removed while the streets are empty. Two carters and two scavengers are out nightly (except Saturday) on this work. The staff of the Horse and Carting Department in the town proper, consists of 7 carters and 4 scavengers and the men take night work in turns. The time for starting out is 9 p.m. except on Sundays when the time is 12-0 midnight.

The scavenging work receives special attention, but it appears almost impossible to carry on the work throughout a whole year without a number of complaints being received. The work is done systematically and an effort is made to avoid traversing unnecessary ground. With this object in view one district is worked and completed before another is started. In some cases however, ashpits are filled to overflowing very quickly, often through misuse, and it is to such places that more than ordinary attention is required and from which, complaints or requests are received. Others are, no doubt, at times overlooked by our own staff and the cause of such complaints is due to such oversight. The number of complaints made is 39 which I consider not great in a town of nearly 4000 houses.

In many cases nuisances arise from ashpits through the practice of some householders depositing therein, quantities of vegetable and animal matter; such refuse, especially in the Summer months, putrefies rapidly and becomes a nuisance to occupiers of houses in close proximity. Occupiers of houses would act wisely, both from a health and an economic standpoint, in burning all vegetable and animal refuse.

The disposal of refuse is yet by means of tips, six in number situated at various parts of the district, but the slow fires at the new destructor have already been lighted, so that before this report is in print it is expected that the plant will be in operation and burning a great part of the town's refuse. The Cemetery, Dearden Clough and Shipperbottom tips will then be discontinued and by this change the town, especially in the localities of the tips will undoubtedly benefit.

The closet and ashes accomodation in the district is approximately as follows :—

Fresh Water Closets	...	...	...	700
Waste Water Closets	...	...	...	1311
Privy Middens :				
Single Privies	...	...	...	500
Dry Ashpits	...	...	...	682
Ashes Bins	...	...	...	684
Movable Closet receptacles	...	...	...	630

Movable receptacles and ashes bins are emptied weekly, and midden-privies and dry ashpits as often as possible. Trade refuse is removed twice weekly (oftener if necessary) from premises where the occupier avails himself of the Council's offer to remove such refuse at a charge of one shilling per week.

The following tables show (1) The details of collection and (2) The number of loads and places of disposal—

TABLE I. Details of Collection.

Month.	Ashpits.	Loads.	Dry Pails.	Wet Pails.	Cesspools.	Barrels.
January	397	422	3176	3800	5	83
February	395	404	2452	2944	4	68
March	395	403	2452	2944	20	75
April	384	395	2452	2944	14	71
May	385	436	3237	3545	11	89
June	451	406	2588	2836	10	72
July	455	471	3235	3545	24	95
August	340	348	2588	2836	17	76
September	483	415	2588	2836	15	85
October	576	480	3235	3545	13	89
November	382	378	2588	2836	18	77
December	403	419	2588	2836	9	71
Totals	5046	4977	33179	37447	160	951
1912	4821	4655	31253	37536	199	904
Increase	225	322	1926	...	...	47
Decrease	...	...	...	89	39	...

TABLE II. Details of Disposal.

Month.	Cemetery	Dearden Clough	Shipper-bottom	Ewood Bridge	Miller Street	Others	Total.
January	199	45	87	23	55	13	422
February	195	51	97	16	39	6	404
March	266	30	47	20	34	6	403
April	223	46	52	17	51	6	395
May	217	53	83	23	47	13	436
June	203	49	67	23	46	18	406
July	267	60	63	14	54	13	471
August	186	38	54	9	37	24	348
September	195	46	100	17	44	13	415
October	274	51	69	23	53	10	480
November	183	39	64	25	50	17	378
December	184	41	118	27	43	6	419
Totals	2592	549	901	237	553	145	4977
1912	2524	556	737	220	469	149	4655
Increase	68	...	164	17	84	...	322
Decrease	...	7	...	...	...	4	...

WASTE PAPER.

Owing to the large amount of waste paper in the town's refuse, and the consequent inconvenience of removing same to tips, a suggestion was made to the Health Committee that all shopkeepers be provided with a sack, for the purpose of keeping clean paper separate from other refuse. Permission was given to purchase about three score sacks, and after a circular letter had been sent out, every shop, where much waste paper was made, was provided with one or more sacks. The full ones are collected weekly (oftener if necessary) and empty ones left. The paper is packed and sold to a waste dealer and the arrangement, I am pleased to say, is not only more convenient, but bids fair to show respectable return at the end of the year.

HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING ETC. ACT, 1909.

Under Sec. 17 of the above Act the house to house inspection has been continued during the year. 199 houses have been inspected and records of same prepared and kept as prescribed by the Local Government Board in article III of the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910. These records which include cubic capacities of all rooms used as living or bedrooms of each house, will be useful and a valuable reference in the future.

Since the passing of this Act, a person taking a house for occupation makes a contract with the landlord, in which a condition is implied that the house is at the commencement of the holding, and also that it must be kept throughout the holding, by the landlord, in all respects reasonably fit for habitation. "Landlord" means, the person who lets the house, whether on his own behalf or on behalf of another.

Property which is deemed most in need of attention from a sanitary standpoint, is dealt with first.

The inspection comprises particulars with respect to (1) water supply, (2) closet accommodation, (3) drainage, (4) light, ventilation, dampness, and cleanliness, (5) paving and draining of yard (6) provision for the disposal of refuse etc.

Before completing the inspection, the drains, if deemed necessary, are tested with smoke, and in case of doubt, a colour test is applied to ascertain whether the drains are connected to the sewer. When all necessary particulars have been obtained a report is prepared, which shows all defects and suggested remedies. The report, along with an explanatory letter is forwarded to the landlord. In most cases an appointment is arranged and the property visited, when the defects are pointed out and suggestions made with regard to the necessary remedial work. As a rule, owners show very little unwillingness to comply with the requirements of the Act.

The repair work at several blocks of property which have been inspected, has not yet been commenced, owing to the contemplated reconstruction of sewers etc. At one of these properties plans for a Back Street have been submitted, and the drainage reconstruction and midden privy conversion are in abeyance on that account.

The improvement work at these properties which comprise 59 houses, is expected to be in progress early in the new year.

A block of 8 back-to-back and two through houses in Union Street, has been dealt with. After suggestions made to the owners with respect to the conversion of the back-to-back houses into through houses, plans for a scheme in accordance were submitted and approved, and the work is expected to be in progress within the next few weeks.

In terminating my report I wish to offer my thanks for the kindness and appreciation shown to me throughout the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

G. A. SHAW,

Inspector of Nuisances, etc.

STATEMENT BY THE COUNCIL'S SURVEYOR

(MR. T. H. BELL)

To the Medical Officer of Health.

STREET AND ROAD IMPROVEMENTS,
SEWERAGE, ETC.

The question of converting the ordinary water-bound macadam surfaces on some of the extensively trafficked lengths of main road into surfaces of a more durable character, is a matter of exchange of opinions at the present time between the County Surveyor and the Streets Committee of this Council. The heavy motor traffic is increasing to such an extent that either paving or tar macadam treatment of the roads will be a necessity unless the extreme discomfort of clouds of dust in summer and mud splashing in winter is still to be endured. The amount granted by the County Council for the ordinary maintenance of the main roads during the twelve months was £1276, but this amount was exceeded in actual spending by £240.

A length of Bolton Road West, measuring approximately 580 lineal yards, was improved at a cost of £1060. The existing water-bound macadam surface was taken up and the road was laid with tar macadam $4\frac{1}{2}$ " in thickness. The County Council contributed three-quarters of the cost of this reconstruction and the remainder of the cost was allocated to the local rates. An important main road widening was also carried out in Stubbins Lane fronting the new Tramways Car Shed. By arrangement with the landowners a width averaging 6' 6" was conceded to the roadway and the old forecourt walls to the gardens of certain houses were taken down, substantial stone walls were erected on the new set back position, and the added width was given to the main road carriageway. The cost of this improvement was £327. Other main road improvements completed during the twelve months were as follows:—The substitution of lonkey sett paving for the former half-width macadam side of Whalley Road at Nimble Nook, the cost being £294; Macadam resheeting on Manchester Road at an outlay of £344; Macadam resheeting on Burnley Road at a cost £216; and Macadam resheeting on the following roads:—Longsight Road, Ewood Bridge Road and Helmshore Road at a cost of £501.

The total cost incurred in connection with the improvement and maintenance of the length of secondary road, extending from Helmsore Road, through the centre of the town, and finally joining Manchester Road, has been £307. The County Council contribute £130 towards the upkeep of this length of road, therefore the charge on the Rates for secondary road has been £177.

The amount spent during the year on the ordinary maintenance of the District roads has been £914. An additional cost has been incurred, owing to the reconstruction Higher Summerseat Road. The means of access to the village of Summerseat, from the direction of Tottington, has been practically impassable, until the recent action of the Council, in making good the portion of road situated within their boundaries. The liability for the repair of this road has been in dispute for some years, but a compromise has been arranged with the land-owners and the property owners. The reconstruction of Higher Summerseat Road has been the result of such compromise. The expenditure incurred in this direction has been £515, but the work is not quite completed. The estimated cost of the full scheme was £642, the property owners undertaking to pay half such estimated cost.

The Private Street Improvement Works, executed under Notices, include the making up and paving of Smith Street at a cost of £141, and the sewerage of the back street between Dora street and Geoffrey street, £12.

Other Sewering Works have been carried out on the instruction of the owners, without the service of notices, and the total expenditure repaid by the owners in respect of such works has been £115. These include the laying of the estate sewer to open up building land off Bolton Road North for Messrs. Turnbull and Stockdale Ltd., and the sewerage of Elm Street and Back Exchange Street in Edenfield.

The sum of money recently sanctioned by the Local Government Board for the construction of sewers in some of the outlying parts of the district has been expended. The sewers laid under this loan are the following :—Dearden Clough Valley Sewer laid at a cost of £616 Holcombe Old Road Sewers £427, and the Pinfold and Crowwoods Sewers laid at an expenditure of £266. Means are thus provided for connecting up many houses, which do not at present drain into the sewage system, and this work is gradually being proceeded with.

An amount of £350 was provided in the Estimates to cover the wages and maintenance charges in connection with the Sewage Disposal Works, and the money will just about cover the cost of the year's working.

Extensive schemes are at present in hand at the Sewage Works, including new Humus Tanks, Bacterial Filters, Pump Well and Electrical Lifting Machinery, to deal with Lower Summerseat and Brooksbottoms Sewage. The new sewers for the latter districts have been laid under contract during the past year, but cannot be connected up until the Pump Well and Machinery on the Disposal Works Site is completed.

The Council received sanction to borrow money to cover the cost of purchasing the block of buildings, a portion of which they have tenanted for many years as Public Offices, and the amount sanctioned also included money for alterations. The purchase has been completed, and the buildings have been altered to afford more convenience for public purposes at a total cost of £2227.

The Refuse Destructor and Steam Disinfector Installation has been completed since the date of my last Report at a cost of £4292. The Plant was put into active operation on January 17th, 1914, and is working with every success. The tests guaranteed under the clauses of the Contract, have been all fulfilled with ample margin. It is satisfactory to note, that nothing of an objectionable character has been noticed issuing from the chimney, and no complaints have been received of nuisance of any kind. The general design of the buildings is such that the tipping of the refuse and the charging on to the furnaces and clinkering operations are effectually screened from

observation. The Cemetery Tip, Dearden Clough Tip, and Shipper-bottom Tip are now rendered useless, since the inauguration of the Destructor, and decidedly more sanitary methods of disposal of waste refuse are now available. Up to the present time, the disinfection of goods and clothing, after fever cases, has been effected by sending them to be treated by our neighbouring authority at Bury ; but with the provision of our own Disinfector, this course will no longer be necessary.

The services of the Ambulance Conveyance have been called upon on 25 occasions during the year ending the 31st of December, 1913.

NEW BUILDINGS AND PLANS

The number of Building Plans submitted during the year was 56, of which 52 were approved, 3 disapproved and 1 was withdrawn

The Plans included 73 dwelling houses, 9 alterations and addition to houses, 12 sanitary alterations, 9 mill alterations, 2 laying out plans, 1 branch bank, 1 reconstruction of Picture Palace, 1 cowshed, 1 large weaving shed, (Holme Mill) and 5 general plans.

The number of new houses erected and completed during the twelve months has been 32, but a decided stimulus has recently taken place in respect to new houses, and my next year's Report will be even more satisfactory, so far as can at present be ascertained.

